

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraphs and headings of the specification, as shown below, in which deleted terms are shown with strikethrough and/or double brackets, and added terms are shown with underscoring. Also, please add new paragraphs [000.1] and [0041], and a heading associated with new paragraph [000.1] as shown below.

New Paragraph [000.1] and Associated Heading

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[000.1] The present invention is the US National Phase of International Application PCT/JP2004/008623, filed 18 June 2004, which claims priority under 35 USC 119 based on Japanese patent application No. 2003-181631, filed 25 June 2003. The entire contents of the International and priority Japanese applications are incorporated herein by reference.

Paragraph [0002] There is proposed, for the purpose of effectively irradiating the object of irradiation with lights from light sources, ~~[[what]]~~ an illuminator that uses a light guide whose side faces are paraboloids or oval arcs (see Patent Document 1 and Patent Document 2 for instance).

Patent Document 1: Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-30734

Patent Document 2: U.S. Patent No. 6,259,082

Heading Between Paragraphs [0002] – [0003]

~~Disclosure of the Invention~~

~~Problems to be Solved by the Invention~~

Heading Between Paragraphs [0004] – [0005]

~~Means for Solving the Problems~~ Summary of the Invention

Paragraph [0005] In order to solve the problem noted above, ~~[[the]]~~ a light guide ~~pertaining~~ according to an embodiment of the invention has such a configuration that it emits lights incident ~~[[from]]~~ on an end face from an emitting face disposed along the longitudinal direction while having the lights reflected by two internal side faces thereof, the sectional shapes of side faces in a direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction (the shapes of the two side faces along the longitudinal direction) have two oval arc curves or two paraboloid curves, and the concentrating position of lights reflected by one side face and the concentrating position of lights reflected by the other side face are different from each other.

Paragraph [0007] In order to solve the problem noted above, the light guide pertaining to the invention has such a configuration that it emits lights incident ~~[[from]]~~ on an end face from an emitting face disposed along the longitudinal direction while having the lights reflected by two internal side faces thereof, the sectional shapes of side faces in a direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction (the shapes of the two side faces along the longitudinal direction) have two oval arc curves or two paraboloid curves, and the concentrating position of lights reflected by one side face and the concentrating position of lights reflected by the other side face are different from each other.

Paragraph [0008] Further, the light guide pertaining to the invention which emits lights incident ~~[[from]]~~ on an end face from an emitting face disposed along the longitudinal direction while having the lights reflected by the internal side faces thereof, may have such a configuration that the sectional shape in the in a direction orthogonal to the longitudinal direction has at least one curved face, and that curved face has two oval arc curved areas differing in focal distance from each other.

Paragraph [0009] ~~[[The]]~~ An image reader ~~pertaining~~ according to an embodiment of the invention may have two pairs, for instance, of illuminating units each provided with a light source on one end or both ends of the light guide thereof, and the illuminating units are so arranged as to cause lights emitted from the emitting faces to irradiate the same area of the face

~~to be read~~ of the document being illuminated.

Paragraph [0010] The light guide according to the invention, and the ~~using that light guide~~ use of same, make it possible to give desirable light distribution characteristics to the prescribed position and depth by combining light guides differing in focal position. Thus it is made possible to reduce ~~the degrading~~ degradation of the read image and read in a satisfactory image, even when the document face is raised, by expanding the distribution of light intensities in the longitudinal direction in the position of the irradiated item (document position).

Heading Between Paragraphs [0017] – [0018]

~~Best Modes for Carrying Out~~ Detailed Description of the Invention

Paragraph [0027] Incidentally, though the light guide 10 shown here consists of a light guide shaped substantially as a quarter of an oval having an ovally curved face 1 and the half pieces 10A and 10B, each shaped substantially as a quarter of an oval, having an ovally curved face 2 being stuck together, it may be ~~unitarily~~ integrally formed as a unitary member. Further, though the curved faces are oval arcs here, they may as well be paraboloidal.

Paragraph [0034] And the illuminating lights 7 reflected by the face ~~to be read~~ of the document to be illuminated and read, not shown, are detected by the line image sensor 33 via the cover glass 35 and the lens array 32. This causes the document to be read.

New Paragraph [0041] Although there have been described what are the present exemplary embodiments of the invention, it will be understood that variations and modifications may be made thereto within the spirit and scope of the appended claims.